

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to the fiscal year 2001 Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act.

Studies show that smaller class sizes help teachers provide more personal attention to students. Teachers are then able to spend less time on discipline, more on instruction for the students that they serve. This helps students receive a stronger foundation in basic skills, skills that will help them succeed in the 21st century economy. The economic function of education must not be overlooked if today's students are to compete in our rapidly growing global economy. I believe that we must ensure that young children have the kind of one-on-one contact with teachers that smaller class sizes will permit.

This bill does not include funding to hire new teachers to reduce class sizes. Let us stop talking about improving education and put our resources into the classrooms. I urge my colleagues to vote against this bill.

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CONDEMNING IRAN OVER THE DETENTION AND TRIAL OF 13 JEWS

(Mr. FOLEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FOLEY. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to condemn the actions of Iran in accusing and now trying 13 Jews for allegedly spying for Israel and the United States.

All 13 have been jailed and isolated for more than a year without being formally charged with anything. They are now being formally tried, again without formal charges having been brought.

Mr. Speaker, we are talking about a group of people aged 17 to 48 who are among the least likely to ever be involved in espionage. We are talking about a rabbi, a student, three Hebrew teachers, a shoe store clerk, and a kosher butcher.

They are now confronting a judge who has it in his power to execute them on grounds that are unsupported and without evidence.

All 13 were arrested by the authorities of the Islamic Republic on the eve of Passover in 1999. They have had little access since then to either family or legal counsel.

Mr. Speaker, I think this Congress should rise as one voice repeatedly and repeatedly to condemn this trial and to demand that Iran release these people back to their families and to freedom. This trial is a sham, and it should be treated as one by the world.

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NEW JERSEY DEVILS ARE NEW JERSEY'S ANGELS

(Mr. ROTHMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to rise today to

honor the New Jersey Devils as the 2000 Stanley Cup champions.

The Devils play a brand of hockey that typifies New Jersey. They are tough competitors led by their captain and playoff MVP, Scott Stevens, whose hard-nosed play shut down the best offensive players in the game. In the finals, they were the underdogs against the defending champs, and we in New Jersey love an underdog.

With a stone wall for a goal tender in Martin Brodeur, the offensive firepower of Jason Arnott, Patrick Elias and Peter Sykora, and a quartet of rookies, including the first Hispanic American player drafted in the first round, Scott Gomez, the Devils fought late into the night in sudden death double overtime on Saturday. In the end, it was the sweet passing from Stevens to Elias to Arnott for the game-winning goal that brought the Cup back to East Rutherford, New Jersey.

Mr. Speaker, the New Jersey Devils are the Stanley Cup champions once again. In the hearts of New Jerseyans, in bringing this Stanley Cup back to New Jersey, these Devils are our angels.

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PRESCRIPTION DRUG COVERAGE

(Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland. Mr. Speaker, Republicans believe that no senior citizen or disabled American should be forced to choose between buying food or buying the prescription drugs necessary to keep them alive.

Prescription drugs have become a major component of quality health care in America, and they have saved and improved many lives.

But these miracles frequently come with a substantial price tag, one that many Medicare recipients on fixed incomes cannot afford without insurance.

Republicans believe the way to solve this dilemma is to create a fair and responsible prescription drug plan that is affordable, available, and voluntary for all Medicare beneficiaries.

It is the right and moral thing to do. By making prescription drug coverage accessible to everyone. Republicans want to make sure that no senior citizen or disabled American falls through the cracks.

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CONGRATULATING NEW JERSEY DEVILS ON WINNING STANLEY CUP

(Mr. PASCRELL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, early Sunday morning, throughout New Jersey, one could hear screams of joy coming from thousands of homes, diners, and bars. Jason Arnott had just scored the shot heard around the Garden State.

After last night, we have some levity and relaxation. I think it is good in the House this morning.

I rise to congratulate the Devils. This is a prize that has been given to the best hockey team in the world. This year, we will have our very own New Jersey Devils inscribed upon it for the second time in 5 years.

Over the past season, the Devils, who practice at beautiful South Mountain Arena in West Orange, have taken New Jersey fans on a roller coaster season we will soon not forget.

We have watched the break-out seasons of potential rookie of the year and, as Congressman Rothman mentioned, the first Hispanic national hockey league star, Scott Gomez, as well as the short-handed goal prowess of former Wolverine John Madden.

No player he faced or hit will forget the awe-inspiring and inspirational play of Captain Scott Stevens, which earned him the coveted Conn Smythe Trophy as playoff most valuable player.

It is a great happy day for New Jersey, for the Devils, and again, after last night, a point of relaxation for the Congress. We deserve it.

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IN MEMORY OF REVEREND MONSIGNOR THOMAS WELLS

(Mrs. MORELLA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, the Reverend Monsignor Thomas Wells, 56, of Germantown, Maryland, pastor of Mother Seton Catholic Parish in Germantown, died Thursday, June 8, in the parish rectory. He was the victim of an apparent breakin and killed after a violent and bloody struggle with the intruder.

This morning, at 11 o'clock, a funeral mass will be celebrated by Cardinal James A. Hickey at the Sacred Heart Church, which is one of the churches that Monsignor Wells served.

What can I say about a man who was in his prime, who was a shepherd to a community, whether they belonged to his faith or not.

I talked to some of the congregants who made statements, such as, "He was only the pastor at Mother Seton for about a year and a half, but he touched so many people in the 2,000-member congregation, just as he touched those in other parishes that he served."

He had served in 5 parishes within the last 3 decades in the State of Maryland. The churches where he served over the past 30 years had been filled in recent years with people who loved the priest for whom they now pray. They are overwhelmed by grief.

He encouraged a lot of the young people. He inspired all who knew him. He was warm, friendly. He had a tremendous sense of humor. He always gave very exciting sermons, motivating people to be the best and to do the most for others.

One can see that the light of God was within him. He was a very holy man, not just by his position in the church